

The Wethersfield Historic District Commission held a Public Hearing on October 11, 2016 at the Wethersfield Town Hall, Town Manager's Conference Room – First Floor, 505 Silas Deane Highway, Wethersfield, Connecticut.

Members Present: Robert Garrey, Chairperson  
Douglas Ovian, Vice Chairperson  
Mark Raymond, Clerk  
Chris Lyons  
John Aforismo, Alternate

Members Absent: Jennifer Wolf  
Daniel Bucknam, Alternate  
Damien Cregeau, Alternate

Also Present: Kristin Stearley, Historic District Coordinator  
Linda Messina, Recording Secretary

Commissioner Garrey called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM, and read the opening comments. Commissioner Raymond read the Legal Notice as it appeared in the *Rare Reminder* on September 29, 2016.

**APPLICATION NO. 4533-16.** Mary Clare Quirk seeks to install a satellite dish on the second story of the west elevation (driveway side) of the house at 44 Robbinswood Drive. (Left open at the September 13, 2016 meeting. The last date to act is October 25, 2016.)

Application was withdrawn by applicant via written correspondence dated October 11, 2016.

**APPLICATION NO. 4538-16.** Trinity Solar seeks to install twenty-nine (29) solar panels on the front of the property with all mechanicals located on the north side of the property at 446 Hartford Avenue. (Tabled at the September 27, 2016 meeting. The last date to act is October 25, 2016.)

Monica Shulham, Trinity Solar, 611 West Johnson Avenue, Cheshire, appeared before the Commission. They would like to install a total of 43 solar panels on the house. There will be 29 panels on the front and 14 on the back. Photos were submitted. The conduit and wiring will be in the attic and run to the meter and shutoff down the side of the house. It is an 11.18 kW system. The panels sit approximately 6" above the roof. The panels sit back far enough that they don't hang over the gutter line. The frames around the panels will be black.

Commissioner Garrey asked whether there was anyone wishing to speak in favor or in opposition to this application. There being no one, this portion of the hearing was declared closed.

**APPLICATION NO. 4545-16.** Pamela Gregory seeks to demolish the rear stairs/railings and reconstruct in wood in the same footprint to meet current codes at 40 Main Street.

Pamela Gregory, 1296 Deer Run Circle, Cheshire, appeared before the Commission. She would like to demolish the existing stairs and replace with the same in the existing footprint, but just brought up to code. They will be wood. There will be wood wrapped lattice. There will be standard rails with square balusters and a toe kick. There will be no post caps.

Commissioner Garrey asked whether there was anyone wishing to speak in favor or in opposition to this application. There being no one, this portion of the hearing was declared closed.

**APPLICATION NO. 4546-16.** Renewal by Andersen seeks to replace twenty-nine (29) wood windows with Renewal by Andersen with full divided light to match the existing light patterns at 180 Main Street.

Rob O'Connor and Patricia Toce, 180 Main Street, appeared before the Commission. They will be replacing all 29 windows on the house. There are storms and screens on the windows now. They would like to use Renewal by Andersen, full divided light, composite windows in the color white. They will match the existing light patterns. In the bathroom, the side window has a framed shower on the inside and half the window is cut off, so they will have to use an awning window in this location. They will have full screens that are black fiberglass, but they are open to aluminum color half screens. The muntin width is 1".

Commissioner Garrey asked whether there was anyone wishing to speak in favor or in opposition to this application. There being no one, this portion of the hearing was declared closed.

**APPLICATION NO. 4547-16.** Gove Restoration LLC seeks to replace the existing wood windows with Windsor SDL aluminum clad sash kits to match the existing light patterns, replace the existing wood front door with a fiberglass door, and to demolish the pilasters and pediment around the front door and replace with flat stock and cedar shakes at 399 Hartford Avenue.

Adam Gove, 44 Old Pewter Lane, appeared before the Commission. He would like to replace the existing wood windows with Windsor SDL aluminum clad sash kits to match the existing light patterns. A sample of the window was provided. The window is 7/8" instead of 5/8". They will remove the existing storm windows and replace them with white triple track storm windows. There is a casement window off of the side between the house and garage and it will be swapped out to a double hung window. They will not touch the window above the door. The shutters will be replaced in kind. The front door will be replaced with a fiberglass craftsman style door with a dental piece. There will be no storm door. The pediment will be removed. A drawing of the door was submitted. The door handle will be the same as presented in the picture.

Commissioner Garrey asked whether there was anyone wishing to speak in favor or in opposition to this application. There being no one, this portion of the hearing was declared closed.

**APPLICATION NO. 4548-16.** Sacred Heart Parish seeks to replace nine (9) wood windows on the Rectory with Harvey Majesty wood aluminum clad windows to match the existing light patterns and to maintain the triple track storm windows on these windows at 56 Hartford Avenue.

Applicant was not present.

Upon motion by Commissioner Ovan, seconded by Commissioner Raymond, and a poll of the Commission, it was voted to close the public hearing on all applications except Application #4548-16 and to open the public meeting.

Aye: Garrey, Ovan, Raymond, Lyons, Aforismo

**APPLICATION NO. 4538-16.** Trinity Solar seeks to install twenty-nine (29) solar panels on the front of the property with all mechanicals located on the north side of the property at 446 Hartford Avenue. (Tabled at the September 27, 2016 meeting. The last date to act is October 25, 2016.)

Upon motion by Commissioner Garrey seconded by Commissioner Raymond and a poll of the Commission, it was voted to APPROVE the application with the following stipulation:

1. The five (5) panels over the front gable extension shall not be installed. The pattern shall be three (3) rows of eight (8) panels.

### **Discussion**

Commissioner Aforismo stated that the number of panels far exceed what his expectations would be.

Commissioner Raymond asked if they could get away with using a smaller footprint of panels on the front façade of the house.

Commissioner Ovian stated that one of the challenges is that the houses where you have “step” flash to deal with the valley, it's not as attractive to the eye. There is another roof where the garage is that is without the panels, so you know what it looks like without it. In this case, this is a very visible application and he would not feel a comfort level supporting it.

Commissioner Garrey stated that there isn't an abutter present and he never hears about the panels after they are installed.

Commissioner Lyons stated that you won't have the outline on the panels, which makes it a little better. It's a large structure. It would be better if they lose the five panels with the jagged pattern.

Aye: Garrey, Raymond, Lyons

Nay: Ovian, Aforismo

**APPLICATION NO. 4545-16.** Pamela Gregory seeks to demolish the rear stairs/railings and reconstruct in wood in the same footprint to meet current codes at 40 Main Street.

Upon motion by Commissioner Aforismo seconded by Commissioner Garrey and a poll of the Commission, it was voted to APPROVE the application as submitted.

### **Discussion**

Commissioner Garrey stated that the only change is really the balusters on the structure, which are being changed to bring to code.

Aye: Garrey, Ovian, Raymond, Lyons, Aforismo

**APPLICATION NO. 4546-16.** Renewal by Andersen seeks to replace twenty-nine (29) wood windows with Renewal by Andersen with full divided light to match the existing light patterns at 180 Main Street.

Upon motion by Commissioner Raymond seconded by Commissioner Aforismo and a poll of the Commission, it was voted to APPROVE the application with the following stipulation:

1. The windows screens shall be ½ screens.

### **Discussion**

Commissioner Garrey stated that he appreciates the discussion of the screen color because it's important. To him, the screen color is less important than the half screens.

Commissioner Ovian stated that he likes the product and he thinks it will look good on that house, but he would be more comfortable if the contractor had a picture or a brochure of the product. There are major differences on simulated divided light windows.

Aye: Garrey, Ovian Raymond, Lyons, Aforismo

**APPLICATION NO. 4547-16.** Gove Restoration LLC seeks to replace the existing wood windows with Windsor SDL aluminum clad sash kits to match the existing light patterns, replace the existing wood front door with a fiberglass door, and to demolish the pilasters and pediment around the front door and replace with flat stock and cedar shakes at 399 Hartford Avenue.

Upon motion by Commissioner Raymond seconded by Commissioner Lyons and a poll of the Commission, it was voted to APPROVE the application as submitted.

### **Discussion**

Commissioner Ovian stated that he is flabbergasted over the notion of putting storms on to protect the SDLs.

Aye: Garrey, Ovian, Raymond, Lyons, Aforismo

**RECORDING STOPPED – BATTERY DIED ON RECORDER.**

Upon motion by Commissioner Garrey, seconded by Commissioner Ovian, and a poll of the Commission, it was voted to re-open the public hearing on Application #4548-16.

Aye: Garrey, Ovian, Raymond, Lyons, Aforismo

**APPLICATION NO. 4548-16.** Sacred Heart Parish seeks to replace nine (9) wood windows on the Rectory with Harvey Majesty wood aluminum clad windows to match the existing light patterns and to maintain the triple track storm windows on these windows at 56 Hartford Avenue.

Brian Freeman, 59 Church Street, appeared before the Commission. There are 68 windows on the house. They would like to re-do them all but they don't have the funds. They are going to replace nine windows that are in poor shape. They will use Harvey Majesty wood aluminum clad windows. They will match the existing light patterns and maintain the triple track storm windows. The replacements will be white. As funds become available, they will replace additional windows.

Commissioner Garrey asked whether there was anyone wishing to speak in favor or in opposition to this application. There being no one, this portion of the hearing was declared closed.

Upon motion by Commissioner Ovian, seconded by Commissioner Raymond, and a poll of the Commission, it was voted to close the public hearing on Application #4548-16 and to open the public meeting.

Aye: Garrey, Ovian, Raymond, Lyons, Aforismo

**APPLICATION NO. 4548-16.** Sacred Heart Parish seeks to replace nine (9) wood windows on the Rectory with Harvey Majesty wood aluminum clad windows to match the existing light patterns and to maintain the triple track storm windows on these windows at 56 Hartford Avenue.

Upon motion by Commissioner Raymond seconded by Commissioner Lyons and a poll of the Commission, it was voted to APPROVE the application as submitted.

### **Discussion**

Commissioner Ovian stated that they have seen this window used both successfully and unsuccessfully in the District before. He didn't ask about muntin widths because in some ways, the pattern that's being requested is relatively small. The whole building will eventually follow the pattern that they pick. That window is more forgiving in a dark color as opposed to white, but many people like white better on windows.

Commissioner Garrey stated that for a 1/1 window with a storm window, he doesn't think it will be that noticeable. His concern is for the window in the turret and being able to replicate that muntin pattern successfully. He assumed that they were matching the existing.

Aye: Garrey, Ovian, Raymond, Lyons, Aforismo

**MINUTES OF AUGUST 23, 2016**

Left open.

**MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 27, 2016**

Upon motion by Commissioner Lyons, seconded by Commissioner Raymond and a poll of the Commission, it was voted to APPROVE the minutes of the September 27, 2016 meeting as submitted.

Aye: Garrey, Raymond, Lyons

**OTHER BUSINESS**

**Public Comments on General Matters of the Historic District**

None.

**Report of the Historic District Coordinator**

None.

**Correspondence**

None.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Upon motion by Commissioner Ovan, seconded by Commissioner Raymond and a poll of the Commission, it was voted to ADJOURN the meeting at 8:34 PM.

Aye: Garrey, Ovan, Raymond, Lyons, Aforismo

Respectfully Submitted

TOWN OF WETHERSFIELD  
HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

Mark Raymond  
- Clerk -